

It is time this Congress got to work and produced airline security and a proper economic stimulation bill. These are the things that are of most concern to the American people.

□ 1015

PROVIDE JOBS, NOT WELFARE

(Mr. TOOMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, it is true; there are hundreds, there are thousands, of good and decent people who are losing their jobs across the Lehigh Valley that I represent, certainly across Pennsylvania and across America. These losses are hitting our families, our neighbors, our friends. No one is immune to this risk.

The fact is, the people that I represent do not want to know how long they can stay out of work; they want to know how quickly they can get back to work. And it is our responsibility to have policy that helps to create an environment of opportunity so they can get back to work, because that is what they want, and that means lowering the huge tax barrier that stands between employers and employees, creating that opportunity to create those new jobs.

In this House we passed an economic stimulus bill that moves in that direction of creating more job opportunities, but the Democratic majority leader in the other chamber refuses to bring a bill to the floor. That chamber insists on dickering and dithering and bickering and political squabbling. They are talking about a so-called stimulus bill that will do nothing but line the pork-barrel politics and try to help out their own political futures and do nothing for creating jobs.

It is long past time to have that type of squabbling. It time to lower the tax barrier and give people the opportunity to get back to work.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Members are reminded to avoid personal references to individual Members of the other body.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

(Mr. WATT of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted today to join with my Republican colleague, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK), from the adjoining Congressional district to me, to start what we hope will be a bipartisan effort to pay tribute to all the victims of the events of September 11.

Here is the way we hope this will work: We want to try to set aside five 1-minutes each day and recruit our colleagues to join with us, to just come and make 1-minute statements about the victims of the events of September 11. If this starts to catch on, then perhaps we will come and try to do a bigger 1 hour special order, or, perhaps before the event is over, try to do a major day of tribute to the victims of the events of September 11.

I would like to invite my colleagues to join with us in this effort. We will provide the materials and information to our colleagues to make this possible, and hope that they will join us in this effort to pay tribute to those victims of the September 11 events.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

(Mrs. MYRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1-minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, as my colleague and friend, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT) has just said, we hope to be able to tell you something about these people who lost their lives.

September 11 will be forever etched in the psyche of the American people, and we cannot change that. But what we can change and tell you about is the good that came out of the event and all the new American heroes that we have, people who totally did things at that time that normally we do not do in our everyday lives. But when they were called upon, they did what was right.

So we hope this does catch on, that other people will be willing to join us in sharing all the good that came from that, and let you know how tremendous these people were that lost their lives on September 11.

AIRLINE SECURITY IS NATIONAL SECURITY

(Mr. RODRIGUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1-minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, aviation security is matter of national security, protecting our skies is a matter of national defense, and we should not leave national security to the private companies that contract to the lowest bidder.

The current system is broken. Contracting to the lowest bidder has created a workforce that suffers from high turnover rates, from low pay and low morale. Baggage screeners should be a highly skilled, highly trained workforce that serves the frontline for our national defense.

There is a broad, bipartisan support of this particular effort. The Washington Post poll showed 82 percent of Americans support Federal Government taking over the airport screening. The Airport Pilots Association en-

dorsed this. The Association of Flight Attendants endorsed this. The U.S. Conference of Mayors endorsed federalization. The Senate also endorses it, by 100 to zero. 100 Senators voted in favor of it.

The U.S. should be a leader in airline security. The size and complexity of our system requires a Federal workforce that is professional, well-trained and well-paid. We ask that we reconsider, and ask the House to pass the bill and federalize them as quickly as possible.

PASS AIRLINE SECURITY MEASURE REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1-minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, as the smoke rises from Rockaway in Queens, New York, we grieve with those who grieve and mourn with those who mourn. Questions remain about the cause, and yet Congressional action on airport security languishes, mired as it is in the politics of the moment.

As the gentlewoman from New York City who has lost friends in the last week said so eloquently, it is time, Mr. Speaker, to get serious. To get serious about airport security we need only do one thing, and that is listen to the President of the United States and his National Security team and give them the airport security measures and protocols that they have requested, which happen to be the version that passed in the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Members of the conference committee to be strong and courageous and do the work; that before we go home to give thanks, we would give the American people an airport security bill that will work and that they so richly deserve.

AVIATION SECURITY IS NATIONAL SECURITY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1-minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, just last week an individual breached several security checkpoints at Chicago's O'Hare Airport with six knives, a stun gun and a can of mace. How many more examples like this will be reported in the press before we pass comprehensive airline security legislation making the security of the flying public a function of Federal law enforcement.

Why not? As the aviation security conferees meet to work out an agreement, I urge them to adopt the Senate bill. It passed 100 to 0, and it makes airline security the function of Federal, professionally-trained law enforcement officials.

The Border Patrol, FBI, INS and Customs Service are all Federal agencies that exist to protect the public. Capitol